

Docket No. 90000-A

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as shown in the Listing of Claims below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A plant support for use with an open-topped plant container for a growing plant, said plant support comprising:

a single endless loop of stiff linear material having a rectangular or trapezoid shape and having a 90° bend between parts of said loop thereby forming a plant support member and an anchor member each made up of a pair of elongated rods cross-connected with a connecting rod at ends of said pair of rods remote from said bend made of a stiff material, said plant support member and said anchor member thereby being rigidly and permanently attached to each other at said bend;

said plant support member having a generally vertical orientation and having a lower end at said bend, and an upper end remote from said lower end, said connecting rod of said plant support member being adjacent to said upper end and ~~and a part that is grippable by hand adjacent to said upper end~~; and

~~said anchor member being attached to said plant support member at said lower end thereof and comprising~~ forming a base element extending generally horizontally,

whereby said base element may be positioned beneath a mass of growth medium in said container with said plant support member extending vertically from said mass of growth medium to facilitate support of a plant growing in said mass, and to facilitate lifting and transportation of said container filled with said mass of growth medium via said part of said plant support member that is grippable by hand.

Claim 2. (Cancelled)

Claim 3. (Cancelled)

Claim 4. (Cancelled)

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Claim 5. (Currently Amended) The plant support of claim 1, ~~wherein~~ further comprising at least one ~~said further~~ connecting rod which extends laterally beyond said pair of elongated rods of said plant support member ~~two or more said elongated rods~~, thereby providing points of support for said plant extending laterally beyond said rods.

Claims 6 to 16. (Cancelled)

Claim 17. (Original) The plant support of claim 1, wherein said stiff material is selected from the group consisting of metal wire, plastic-coated metal wire, metal rod, plastic-coated metal rod, molded plastic rod and molded fiberglass rod.

Claim 18. (Original) The plant support of claim 1, wherein said supporting member is provided with horizontal notches positioned at regular intervals between said upper and lower ends.

Claim 19. (Currently Amended) The plant support of claim ~~[[18]]~~ 18, wherein said regular intervals are separated from each other by a distance in the range of 5 to 30.5 cm (2 to 12 inches).

Claim 20. (Currently Amended) The plant support of claim 1, including a horizontal plant support member adapted for engaging said ~~elongated rods~~ plant support member having a generally vertical orientation, said ~~elongated rods~~ plant support member having a generally vertical orientation comprising elongated rods having confronting inner surfaces and opposite outer surfaces.

Claims 21 to 28. (Cancelled)

Claim 29. (Currently Amended) The plant support of claim 20, wherein said ~~plant support member has~~ elongated rods have generally horizontal grooves at vertically spaced locations, said grooves being sized to partially receive said horizontal plant support.

Claims 30 to 35. (Cancelled)

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Claim 36. (Currently Amended) A combination comprising an open-topped plant container and a plant support, said open-topped container having sidewalls, a bottom and an open top, and containing a mass of growth medium, said plant support comprising:

a single endless loop of stiff linear material having a rectangular or trapezoid shape and having a 90° bend between parts of said loop thereby forming a plant support member and an anchor member each made up of a pair of elongated rods cross-connected with a connecting rod at ends of said pair of rods remote from said bend, said plant support member and said anchor member thereby being rigidly and permanently attached to each other at said bend;

said plant support member having a generally vertical orientation and having a lower end at said bend, and an upper end remote from said lower end, said connecting rod of said plant support member being adjacent to said upper end and grippable by hand; and

said anchor member forming a base element extending generally horizontally,

whereby said base element may be positioned beneath a mass of growth medium in said container with said plant support member extending vertically from said mass of growth medium to facilitate support of a plant growing in said mass, and to facilitate lifting and transportation of said container filled with said mass of growth medium via said part of said plant support member that is grippable by hand

~~a plant support member and an anchor member each made of a stiff material, said plant support member and said anchor member being rigidly and permanently attached to each other;~~

~~said plant support member being orientated and having a lower end extending to said bottom of said plant container, an upper end separated from said lower end by a distance causing said support member to clear said open top, and a part that is grippable by hand adjacent to said upper end; and~~

~~said anchor member being attached to said plant support member at said lower end thereof and comprising a base element extending generally horizontally when said plant support member is orientated generally vertically, said base element being positioned beneath said mass of growth medium in said container with said plant support member extending vertically from said mass of growth medium to facilitate support of a plant growing in said mass, and to facilitate lifting and transportation of said container filled with said mass of growth medium via said part of said plant support member that is grippable by hand.~~

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Claim 37. (Original) The combination of claim 36, wherein said container has a diameter and said base member extends horizontally from said lower end of said plant support member by a distance equivalent to at least 20% of said diameter.

Claims 38 to 39 (Cancelled)

Claim 40. (Currently Amended) The combination of claim 36, wherein said plant container has a maximum diameter and said plant support member has a maximum lateral width that is equal to or less than said maximum diameter of the plant container.

Claims 41 to 43. (Cancelled).